



# 2018 Allowable and Prohibited Duties for Dental Assistants: Iowa



## How to Use the Following Charts

- View which job designations are used in your state.
- Be sure to follow the legal requirements to perform dental radiographic procedures.
- See which tasks are not permitted by state law.
- Review all the allowable tasks for each level of dental assisting as published in the state practice act.

View the education/training/credential required for each level of dental assisting.

Arizona			
<p><b>Education/Training/Credential Required</b></p> <p>To perform specified restorative functions in Arizona under the supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Registered Function or Restorative Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Proficiency Certificate (see requirements to pass the certificate)</li> <li>Successfully complete an EFDA training course approved by the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) or a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited program</li> <li>AND DANB's AMP, TAMP and RAMP</li> <li>AND have the supervision of a licensed dentist, perform restorative procedures equivalent to the ASBDE criteria, including the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dentist and document these procedures on a Licensed Dental Employment Form</li> <li>AND the DANB for Arizona Restorative Certificate</li> </ul> <p>To perform coronal polishing procedures in Arizona under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) Coronal Polishing Certificate for Arizona Restorative Certificate</li> <li>AND the Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate State Affidavit (completed by a licensed dentist or coronal polishing educator) course instruction by DANB</li> <li>AND Pass the Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate</li> <li>AND Pass the Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate</li> </ul> <p>A dental assistant in Arizona who performs restorative dental procedures under the state dental practice act has extensive responsibilities. The listed requirements apply to the listed supervision of a licensed dentist.</p> <p>There are no education/training requirements for this level of dental assisting.</p>	<p><b>Job Title Assigned by State (JATS)</b></p> <p>Registered Function (Restorative)</p> <p>Registered Function (Coronal Polishing)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Coronal Polishing Assistant</p>	<p><b>Proposed Restorative Job Title</b></p> <p>Restorative</p> <p>Coronal Polishing</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Coronal Polishing Assistant</p>	<p><b>Radiography Requirements</b></p> <p>In order to legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in Arizona, a dental assistant must have a current approved certificate in radiography. To obtain a certificate, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Safety and (RHS) exam</li> <li>AND Pass the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) Restorative Proficiency Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</li> <li>AND Be currently certified in another U.S. state with a Restorative Proficiency Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</li> </ul> <p>Restorative procedures require dental assistants to use the Arizona Coronal Polishing Certificate, which is not a dental assisting certificate. The certificate is issued by the ASBDE. One must pass the dental x-ray exam to be certified in radiography. The ADA/DANB Alliance on the Dental Care and Education Study conducted from 2002-2003.</p> <p>The same study offered a list of 70 job titles that were representative of the range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions in this state that relate to the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are supported by the right, state dental practice act. (The numbers correspond to the study's task numbering system.)</p> <p>Functions listed with numbers are part of the state's practice act but are not specific to the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study.</p> <p>These states implement various dental practice acts to support a uniform dental practice act and to ensure dental assisting tasks, roles and responsibilities, which will serve as a model career ladder for dental assistants.</p>

Arizona	
<p><b>Job Title Assigned by State (JATS)</b></p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p><b>Allowable Functions</b></p> <p>If functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations, functions with letters are in the state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research.</p> <p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Apply fluoride varnish</li> <li>40. Apply sealants</li> <li>* Place interim restorations</li> <li>Instructions under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through radiography</li> </ul> <p><b>Level of Supervision Not Specified</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12, 23, 51, 70. Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and contouring of amalgamated crowns, bridges, inlays, veneers, or cast by a licensed dentist; the restorative materials used will be determined by the dentist.</li> </ul> <p><b>Under Coronal Polishing Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Perform coronal polishing procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>Under Direct Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Remove amalgam</li> <li>23. Apply dental bandages and mouth shields</li> <li>42. Remove periodontal dressings with hand instruments</li> <li>47. DR. Remove and replace crown and interim restorations with hand instruments</li> <li>49. Remove and replace crown and interim restorations with hand instruments</li> <li>51. Prepare a patient for retentive resin and complete diagnostic impressions with a dental die</li> <li>52. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction</li> <li>61. Remove excess cement from stents, crowns, bridges, and orthodontics</li> <li>62. Remove periodontal dressings with hand instruments</li> <li>63. Prepare a patient for retentive resin and complete diagnostic impressions with a dental die</li> <li>64. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction</li> <li>* Check the supragingival surface of the tooth in preparation for the placement of veneers, crowns, and restorations</li> <li>* Check each procedure</li> <li>* Check each procedure</li> <li>* Check each procedure</li> <li>* Check each procedure</li> </ul> <p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Collect and record information pertaining to dental conditions</li> <li>3. Prepare or instruct patients in oral hygiene</li> <li>4. Perform radiographic procedures, delivery concerning the setup and proper contact, and provide oral and diagnostic radiographs relative to specific office treatment</li> </ul>

Compare your state's job designations to those used as standardized job titles in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study.

If your state's dental practice act specifically defines levels of supervision, the state-specific definition is noted below the chart. See Appendix B for more information about supervision.

These data are presented for informational purposes only and are not intended as a legal opinion regarding dental practice in any state. DANB confers with each state's dental board at least annually regarding the accuracy and currency of this information. To verify, or if you have any questions, please contact your state's dental board.

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Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of IA	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <u>NOT</u> Permitted by Dental Assistants in IA
<p>In order to work as a dental assistant in Iowa, an individual <b>must be 17 years of age or older, be a high school graduate or equivalent, and be registered</b> with the Iowa Dental Board and have received a Certificate of Registration.</p>				
<p>To qualify as a <b>Certified Level 2 Provider</b>, a Registered Dental Assistant must: become a Certified Level 1 provider <b>AND</b> pass a Board-approved entrance examination prior to beginning training as a Certified Level 2 provider <b>AND</b> complete Board-approved training in all Level 2 functions offered through the University of Iowa College of Dentistry or a program accredited by CODA.</p>	<p>Certified Level 2 Provider</p>		<p>To expose radiographs in Iowa, a dental assistant must hold a current registration certificate and active radiography qualification issued by the Iowa Dental Board (IDB) <b>and</b> a dentist must provide general supervision. To earn dental radiography qualification, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Be a Dental Assistant Trainee or Registered Dental Assistant with an active registration status <b>OR</b></li> <li>Be a graduate of an accredited dental assisting program <b>OR</b></li> <li>Be a nurse who holds an active Iowa nursing license</li> </ul>	<p>The following functions are <b>not</b> permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <p>20. Removal of any plaque, stain, or hard natural or synthetic material except by toothbrush, floss or rubber cup coronal polish, or removal of any calculus</p> <p>40. Placement of sealants</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Diagnosis, examination, treatment planning, or prescription, including prescription for drugs and medicaments or authorization for restorative, prosthodontic or orthodontic appliances</li> <li>• Surgical procedures on hard and soft tissues within the oral cavity and any other intraoral procedure that contributes to or results in an irreversible alteration to the oral anatomy</li> <li>• Administration of local anesthesia</li> <li>• Procedures that require the professional judgement and skill of a dentist</li> </ul>
<p><b>Certified Level 1 Provider</b> To qualify as a <b>Certified Level 1 provider</b>, a Registered Dental Assistant must complete Board-approved training in <b>all</b> Level 1 expanded functions offered through a CODA-accredited program or other Board-approved program, which may include on-the-job training offered by an Iowa licensed dentist.</p>	<p>Certified Level 1 Provider</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide proof of successful completion of an Iowa Board-approved course of study in dental radiography within the two years prior to application</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Basic Expanded Function Provider</b> A Registered Dental Assistant may qualify to <b>perform select Level 1 expanded function procedures</b> by completing Board-approved training offered through a CODA-accredited program or another Board-approved program, which may include on-the-job training offered by an Iowa licensed dentist. <i>A dentist may delegate to an RDA only those Level 1 procedures for which the assistant has received the required expanded function training.</i></p>	<p>Basic Expanded Function Provider</p>		<p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provide proof that he or she successfully completed an Iowa Board-approved exam in the area of dental radiography (the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety [RHS] exam meets this requirement if taken after January 1, 1986)</li> </ul>	
<p><b>To qualify for expanded function training</b>, a dental assistant must be a graduate of a CODA-accredited dental assisting program, <b>OR</b> hold current DANB certification, <b>OR</b> have a minimum of one year of clinical practice as a registered dental assistant, <b>OR</b> have a minimum of one year of clinical practice as a dental assistant in a state that does not require registration.</p>			<p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Apply to the IDB for Qualification in Dental Radiography</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: A dental assistant trainee must be 18 years of age to perform dental radiography.</i></p>	
<p>To qualify as a <b>Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</b> in Iowa, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Work in a dental office for six months as a Dental Assistant Trainee (<i>see requirements below</i>) <b>OR</b></li> <li>If licensed out of state, have at least six months prior dental assisting experience under a licensed dentist within the past two years <b>OR</b></li> <li>Graduate from an accredited dental assisting program approved by the Iowa Dental Board (IDB) <b>AND</b></li> <li>Successfully complete an IDB-approved course of study in the areas of infection control, hazardous materials, and jurisprudence; the course of study may be taken at a board-approved, accredited dental assisting program <b>or</b> on the job using a curriculum approved by IDB <b>AND</b></li> <li>Pass required exams in infection control/hazardous materials and jurisprudence; exams approved by the IDB are those administered by the IDB or the IDB's approved testing centers, or the DANB ICE exam (if taken after June 1, 1991); the IDB may require applicants with exam scores older than five years to retest</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hold a valid CPR card</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Apply to IDB for registration as a dental assistant</li> </ul>	<p>Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p>	<p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p>	<p>The ADAA/DANB Alliance developed a listing of standardized job titles (left) based on its national Core Competencies Study conducted from 2002-2005.</p> <p>The same study utilized a list of 70 job functions which were determined to be representative of a broad range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions in this state that relate to the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are numbered to the right, using language directly from this state's dental practice act. (The numbers correspond to the study's task numbering system.)</p> <p>Functions listed with bullets are part of this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB/ADAA research.</p>	
<p>To qualify as a <b>Dental Assistant Trainee</b> in Iowa, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Graduate from high school or equivalent. <b>AND</b></li> <li>Be 17 years of age or older.</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Be enrolled in a cooperative education or work-study program through an Iowa high school</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Apply to the Iowa Dental Board and receive a certificate of dental assistant trainee status</li> </ul> <p>A dental assistant trainee must have certification of Dental Assistant Trainee status issued prior to beginning work as a dental assistant trainee.</p>	<p>Dental Assistant Trainee</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>These state templates reflect the work done by the ADAA/ DANB Alliance to support a uniform national model for one set of dental assisting tasks, levels and requirements, which will serve as a viable career ladder for dental assistants.</p>	

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Job Title According to State of IA	Allowable Functions (Functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations; functions with bullets are in this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research)															
Certified Level 2 Provider	<p><b>Under Direct Supervision*</b> A Registered Dental Assistant who has qualified as a Certified Level 2 provider (see requirements on previous page) may perform Level 2 expanded functions.</p> <p><i>Level 2 Expanded Functions:</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>12, 51. Placement and shaping of amalgam following preparation of a tooth by a dentist</td> <td>33. Placement and shaping of composite following preparation of a tooth by a dentist</td> <td>• Taking records for the fabrication of dentures and partial dentures</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>70. Forming and placement of stainless steel crowns</td> <td>• Tissue conditioning (soft reline only)</td> </tr> </table>	12, 51. Placement and shaping of amalgam following preparation of a tooth by a dentist	33. Placement and shaping of composite following preparation of a tooth by a dentist	• Taking records for the fabrication of dentures and partial dentures		70. Forming and placement of stainless steel crowns	• Tissue conditioning (soft reline only)									
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Certified Level 1 Provider	<p><b>Under Direct Supervision*</b> Certified Level 1 are registered dental assistants who have completed training in all Level 1 procedures.</p> <p><i>Level 1 Expanded Functions:</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>2. Preliminary charting of existing dental restorations and teeth</td> <td>35. Placement of periodontal dressings</td> <td>63. Placement and removal of dry socket medication</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Placement and removal of gingival retraction</td> <td>46. Taking final impressions</td> <td>• Taking occlusal registrations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>34. Applying cavity liners and bases, desensitizing agents, and bonding systems</td> <td>47, 50. Fabrication and removal of provisional restorations</td> <td>• Removal of adhesives (hand instrumentation only)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>49. Testing pulp vitality</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>59. Monitoring of nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	2. Preliminary charting of existing dental restorations and teeth	35. Placement of periodontal dressings	63. Placement and removal of dry socket medication	6. Placement and removal of gingival retraction	46. Taking final impressions	• Taking occlusal registrations	34. Applying cavity liners and bases, desensitizing agents, and bonding systems	47, 50. Fabrication and removal of provisional restorations	• Removal of adhesives (hand instrumentation only)		49. Testing pulp vitality			59. Monitoring of nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia	
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Basic Expanded Function Provider	<p><b>Under Direct Supervision*</b> Registered Dental Assistants may perform select Level 1 procedures permitted for Basic Expanded Function Providers if they have met the education and training requirements for those procedures. A dentist may delegate to a Registered Dental Assistant only those Level 1 procedures for which the assistant has received the required expanded function training.</p> <p><i>Level 1 Expanded Functions:</i></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>2. Preliminary charting of existing dental restorations and teeth</td> <td>35. Placement of periodontal dressings</td> <td>63. Placement and removal of dry socket medication</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6. Placement and removal of gingival retraction</td> <td>46. Taking final impressions</td> <td>• Taking occlusal registrations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>34. Applying cavity liners and bases, desensitizing agents, and bonding systems</td> <td>47, 50. Fabrication and removal of provisional restorations</td> <td>• Removal of adhesives (hand instrumentation only)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>49. Testing pulp vitality</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>59. Monitoring of nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	2. Preliminary charting of existing dental restorations and teeth	35. Placement of periodontal dressings	63. Placement and removal of dry socket medication	6. Placement and removal of gingival retraction	46. Taking final impressions	• Taking occlusal registrations	34. Applying cavity liners and bases, desensitizing agents, and bonding systems	47, 50. Fabrication and removal of provisional restorations	• Removal of adhesives (hand instrumentation only)		49. Testing pulp vitality			59. Monitoring of nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia	
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Dental Assistant Trainee	<p><b>Under Personal Supervision*</b> All Dental Assistant Trainees who are engaging in on-the-job training to meet the requirements for registration and are learning the necessary skills are considered to be under the personal supervision of a licensed dentist, licensed dental hygienist or registered dental assistant.</p> <p>No allowable functions are specified in the state practice act, with the exception of dental radiography (see "Radiography Requirements" on previous page).</p> <p><b>DANB's Note on Allowable Dental Assisting Functions</b> In the state of Iowa, all dental assistants may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Perform infection control and occupational safety procedures</li> <li>Perform other duties not specified by this state's dental practice act</li> </ul> <p>At this time, DANB cannot list all allowable dental assisting functions for each state because some states' dental practice acts outline very specific allowable functions, while others outline only prohibited functions and some contain minimal or no regulation of dental assisting duties.</p>															

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**\*Direct Supervision:** The dentist is present in the treatment facility, but it is not required that the dentist be physically present in the treatment room while the dental assistant is performing acts assigned by the dentist.

**General Supervision:** The dentist has examined the patient and has delegated services to be provided by a registered dental assistant, which are limited to extraoral duties, dental radiography, intraoral suctioning, and use of a curing light and intraoral camera. The dentist need not be present in the facility while these services are being provided.

**Personal Supervision:** For intraoral procedures, the dentist is physically present in the treatment room to oversee and direct all intraoral or chairside services of the dental assistant trainee; for extraoral procedures, a licensee or registrant is physically present in the treatment room to oversee and direct all extraoral services of the dental assistant trainee.

**Public Health Supervision:** (1) The dentist authorizes and delegates the services provided by a registered dental assistant to a patient in a public health setting, with the exception that services may be rendered without the patient's first being examined by a licensed dentist; (2) The dentist is not required to provide future dental treatment to patients served under public health supervision; (3) The dentist and the registered dental assistant have entered into a written supervision agreement that details the responsibilities of each licensee/registrant, as specified in subrule 20.16(2); and (4) The registered dental assistant has an active Iowa registration and a minimum of one year of clinical practice experience.